

it is mentioned as occurring there in a number of works. Sclater (1924) gives northern Uganda as part of its range; Jackson (1938) gives localities in Karamoja, Madi, and Acholi Districts; both Friedmann (1966) and Williams (1967a, 1967b) record it from Karamoja. Capt. C. R. S. Pitman (*in litt.*) saw this species in East Madi (N. W. Acholi District), near the Sudan border, in April 1950.

Apalis rufifrons, Red-fronted Apalis: One seen between Iriri and Kang'ole, ca. 2° 20' N., 34° 25' E., in November 1965. This is a dry *Acacia* bush species, recorded by Jackson (1938) and Hall & Moreau (1970) from Turkana, the neighbouring district of Kenya. I have also observed it in similar habitat and at approximately the same altitude, i.e. ca. 1400 metres a.s.l., in Samburu District, Kenya. This appears to be the first record for Uganda.

Oenanthe pleschanka (= *O. leucomela*), Pied Wheatear: Widespread in Teso and Karamoja Districts from October to February. Another species not mentioned as occurring in Uganda by Mackworth-Praed & Grant (1960) or by White (1962). Jackson (1938) gives a record from Karamoja and another from near Masaka, ca. 0° 25' S., 31° 40' E. Williams (1967a) has it on his list for Kidepo National Park.

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Variation in *Caprimulgus tristigma* Rüppell, especially in West Africa

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General

This note has been prompted by the collection of an unusually pale specimen of the rock-dwelling nightjar, *Caprimulgus tristigma* Rüppell, near Iseyin, Western State, Nigeria. It was found in the Department of Zoology, Univer-

sity of Ibadan, by R. H. P., who sent it to C. W. B. for presentation to the British Museum (Natural History) and study of its subspecific status. This could only be done against a background of variation in the species as a whole.

White (1965: 206-207) has given a summarised account of the three subspecies (*tristigma*, *lentiginosus*, *sharpei*) and their characters, which is in general satisfactory. But for southern Africa he recognised only *C.t.lentiginosus*. There is no doubt that Clancey (1965: 345) was justified in separating *granosus*. It is darker and greyer above than *lentiginosus*, lacking the buffy or vinaceous tones, and decidedly less buffy below. Clancey also suggests that *granosus* is larger. But the four males of *lentiginosus* which he had may have been exceptionally small individuals, their wings measuring 177-181 mm. only, whereas the two incorporated in the Table below measure 190, 192 mm. We could find no sexual dimorphic significance in the wing-lengths of the 93 specimens examined and therefore have grouped the sexes together in the Table for clarity. Males have the tips of the two outer pairs of retrices white for about 40 mm., whereas in females they are freckled. White tips are present even in juvenile males (Jackson, *Arnoldia, Rhodesia* 5(12), 1971:3). Bannerman (1933: 156) also claims that the white spots on the inner webs of the four outer primaries are smaller in females, but this does not seem an altogether reliable character for distinguishing the sexes.

Table

Wing-lengths of the material examined of *Caprimulgus tristigma*, in millimetres

	Specimens	Range	Mean
S. W. Africa (<i>C.t.lentiginosus</i>)	2♂♂; 7♀♀	178-196	(188.6)
Eastern Transvaal (<i>C.t. near granosus</i>)	5♂♂; 5♀♀	184-195	(187.1)
Rhodesia, Malawi, Congo, and Tanzania, south of 8° S. (<i>C.t. granosus</i>)	11♂♂; 10♀♀	182-196	(188.2)
Tanzania north of 5° S., Ruanda, north-eastern Congo (Upper Uele), Uganda, Kenya (<i>C.t.tristigma</i>)	17♂♂; 11♀♀	168-187	(177.6)
Ethiopia, southern Sudan (<i>C.t.tristigma</i>)	6♂♂; 3♀♀	172-183	(179.4)
Central African Republic, Cameroun (<i>C.t. sharpei</i>)	4♂♂; 1♀	167-182	(174.6)
Nigeria	3♂♂; 1♀; 1 sex ?	178-184	(182.2)
Togo, Ghana, Mali, Guinea (<i>C.t. sharpei</i>)	4♂♂; 2♀♀	165-178	(172.1)

The range of *granosus* may be taken as from north-eastern Botswana, Rhodesia and Mozambique north of the Save River, north to southern Tanzania, the southern Congo, and possibly Angola (no material was apparently available to Clancey from the latter country, nor to us). Clancey only definitely placed the area from the western Cape north to South-West Africa as within the range of *lentiginosus*, and thought that birds from the eastern Cape north to the Transvaal might be separable as darker and browner than *lentiginosus*. The only material from this area available in the present study has been 10 specimens from the eastern Transvaal (Zoutpansberg, Legogot, Rustenburg). On the upperside they are not separable from *granosus*, but on the underside seem intermediate. With this reservation we place them as near *granosus*.

The figures in the Table indicate that the material placed with nominate *tristigma* averages smaller in size than *lentiginosus* or *granosus*, and that *sharpei* averages smaller still. As to colour, *lentiginosus* is the most distinctive. Nevertheless, on average, nominate *tristigma* is distinguishable from *granosus* in being not so grey. Some specimens (in the British Museum) show a tendency to rufous, this being best marked in two from Kenya (Laikipia), and in all

nine from Ethiopia and the Sudan. Again, on average, *sharpei* is without doubt the darkest, even though it is possible to pick out the odd specimen which matches an unusually dark *granosus*. No specimen of *sharpei* showing any tendency to rufous has been seen.

The Nigerian specimens

Thus we arrive at the point where there are four recognisable forms which already bear names. Five specimens from Nigeria remain for discussion. They constitute a fifth recognisable form which may be known as:

Caprimulgus tristigma pallidogriseus, subsp. nov.

Diagnosis: Paler grey than any of the foregoing forms, in especially strong contrast to *sharpei*, the darkest. Like *granosus*, nominate *tristigma* and *sharpei* lacks the buffy tones of *lentiginosus*. Larger than *sharpei*, wing (both sexes) 178–184 as against 165–182 mm. (see table).

Type: In the British Museum (Natural History), registered number 1971.3. 1. ♀, 22nd May, 1961, Upper Ogun Estate, 15 miles north of Iseyin, Western Region, Nigeria, 8° 10' N., 3° 35' E. Collector F. C. Sibley.

Measurements and weight of type: Wing 183, tail 123 mm. Weight 69g.

Material examined: In addition to the type, the following are particulars of two further specimens of *pallidogriseus* and their collectors, found in the British Museum:

♂, 6th September, 1962, Sha, Nigeria, 4,100 feet, 9° 10' N., 8° 50' E. R. G. Newell (Imperial College Nigeria Expedition). Wing 184 mm.

♂, 28th October, 1951, Jos, Nigeria, 4,000 feet, 9° 55' N., 8° 53' E. R. E. Sharland. Wing 182 mm.

A wing of a fourth specimen collected on 7th November, 1960 by P. Blasdale at Kari, 10° 45' N., 9° 00' E. (not the locality of the same name at 11° 20' N., 10° 33' E.), has been made available by Dr. C. H. Fry, and with Mr. Blasdale's consent presented to the British Museum. Its relatively pale colour indicates that it is best placed with *pallidogriseus*. Its length is 178 mm.

A fifth specimen considered referable to *pallidogriseus* was caught in a mistnet, and released, by J. Broadbent at Oyo New Reservoir, Western State, Nigeria, 7° 50' N., 3° 55' E., 24th December, 1969. A coloured slide, a copy of which has been deposited in the British Museum, shows it to be a very pale grey, while its wing-length was recorded as 184 mm. The outermost rectrices were noted as having large white tips, indicating that it was a male. It weighed 100 g, thus much heavier than the type, though a specimen from Moroto, Uganda (presumably nominate *tristigma*) weighed 87 g (Britton, *Bull. Brit. Orn. Cl.* 90, 1970: 144). Surprisingly, Verheyen (*Expl. Parc. Nat. Upemba*, 1953: 382) gives still smaller figures, viz. 67, 77, 78, 82 g, for five specimens of the relatively large *granosus* (recorded by him as *lentiginosus*) from the southern Congo.

Details of specimens of *sharpei* examined, in elaboration of the information in the Table are:

(a) In British Museum

Central African Republic: ♂, 17th October, 1905, Mt. Kaga Dzirri, Kemo River, 5° 45' N., 18° 46' E. Boyd Alexander. Type of *C. goslingi* Alexander (*Bull. Brit. Orn. Cl.* 19, 1907: 47). As already correctly pointed out by Bannerman (1933: 156), *goslingi* is a synonym of *sharpei*.

Cameroun: ♂, 19th July, 1948, Ndop, 30 miles east of Bamenda; ♀, 11th September, 1948, 25 miles east of Bamenda. Co-ordinates for both given as 5° 55' N., 10° 10' E. W. Serle. ♂, 19th August, 1906, Ebolewo, 3° 00' N.,

11° 10' E; ♂, 26th November, 1924, Bitye, 3° 10' N., 12° 20' E. G. L. Bates.
Ghana: 2 ♂♂, 18th February and 11th March, 1901, Gambaga, 10° 31' N.,
0° 28' W. Boyd Alexander. The February specimen is the type of *sharpei*.
Mali: ♀, 10th July, 1928, Kulikoro, 12° 55' N., 7° 30' W. G. L. Bates.

(b) In Koninklijk Museum voor Midden-Afrika, Tervuren

Togo: ♂, ♀, 26th August, 1968, Aledjo, 9° 25' N., 1° 30' E. A. De Roo
(Joint Expedition of the Rijksuniversitaire Centrum van Antwerpen and
the Koninklijk Museum voor Midden-Afrika, Tervuren, promoter Prof.
Dr. W. N. Verheyen).

(c) In Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris

Guinea: ♂, 9th October, 1926, Kindia, 10° 0' N., 12° 48' W. Dr. Gronnier.
The palest specimen in this series is the female from Bamenda, but even so
it is darker than any of those of *pallidogriseus*.

We had originally considered using the name *pallidus* rather than *pallido-*
griseus. But we have refrained from doing so in view of *C. pallidus* Severzow
(*Journ. Ornith.*, 1875: 179, 198), which according to Hartert (*Cat. birds Brit.*
Mus. 16, 1892: 529) is a synonym of *C. europaeus uniwini* Hume.

[to be continued]

Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature: Opinions

In continuation of *Bull. Brit. Orn. Cl.* 91, 1971: 60, and by permission of the
International Trust for Zoological Nomenclature, the following Ruling is
quoted as an extract from an Opinion published in *Bull. Zool. Nomencl.*
affecting birds:

Opinion 938 *Bull. Zool. Nomencl.* 27 (3-4, 1970: 176)

(1) Under the plenary powers the generic name *Larius* Boddaert, 1783,
is hereby suppressed for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for
those of the Law of Homonymy.

(2) The following generic names are hereby placed on the official List
of Generic Names in Zoology with the Name Numbers specified:

(a) *Lorius* Vigors, 1825 (gender: masculine), type-species, by original
designation, *Psittacus domicella* Linnaeus, 1758 (Name No. 1931);

(b) *Electus* Wagler, 1832 (gender: masculine), type-species, by designation
by Gray, 1840, *Psittacus grandis* Gmelin, 1789 (Name No. 1932).

(3) The following species names are hereby placed on the Official List
of Specific Names in Zoology with the Name Numbers specified:

(a) *domicella* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the binomen *Psittacus*
domicella (type-species of *Lorius* Vigors, 1825) (Name No. 2423);

(b) *roratus* Müller, 1776, as published in the binomen *Psittacus roratus*
(Name No. 2424).

(4) The family group-name Loriidae (correction of Lorianae) Swainson,
1837 (type-genus *Lorius* Vigors, 1825) is hereby placed on the Official List
of Family-Group names in Zoology with the Name Number 457.

(5) The generic name *Larius* Boddaert, 1783 (as suppressed under the
plenary powers in (1) above) is hereby placed on the Official Index of
Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology with the Name Number
1986.